

Industries & Commerce, Handloom & Textiles, Sericulture, Khadi & Village Industries, Tourism, Transport, Public Distribution system, Employment Opportunities in other parts of the Country and abroad.

In the current year the new scheme is expected to generate employment for around 35,000; of these those directly employed will be around 19,700 and those indirectly employed around 15,300.

Coastal Highway from Balasore to Gopalpur

204. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the estimated cost of the project to construct a Coastal Highway from Balasore to Gopalpur in Orissa;
- (b) the fund allocation made for the project so far; and
- (c) the steps taken to expedite construction of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD). B.C. KHANDURI): (a) to (c) Construction of Coastal Highway from Digha to Gopalpur is in proposal stage only. The State Government has submitted Terms of Reference for conducting Feasibility Study. This is under scrutiny in the Ministry. Details of the estimated cost of the Project will be known after completion of the Feasibility Study. So far no fund has been sanctioned by the Centre for this Project.

National Highways in Andhra Pradesh

205. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) what are the details of the State Highways which are proposed to be converted as National Highways in Andhra Pradesh during the year 2000-2001;
- (b) what is the present requirement of length of Highways to be widened to four lanes; and